

Border Security & Immigration Reform

Chet believes our nation's first priority is to secure our land and sea borders and to protect our homeland. As a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, he has supported funding to hire an additional 6,700 border patrol agents which brings the total number of agents to over 20,000.

Chet also believes that Congress should work together in a bipartisan manner to craft a comprehensive immigration reform plan that includes an opportunity to provide a legal status to undocumented immigrants, equipping our borders and ports with the best technology and resources, a strong electronic employee identification system, and tougher penalties against employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.

Under Chet's plan, undocumented immigrants would be eligible to apply for legal permanent residence if they:

- Pass a criminal background check
- Learn English and take civic classes
- Pay fines and back taxes
- Maintain suitable employment and pay taxes
- Get in line behind those who came here legally and are applying for legal permanent residence.

Chet voted for restricting undocumented immigrants from receiving loans from the federal government in 2008 and the Welfare Reform Act in 1996 that further prohibits illegal immigrants from receiving any form of welfare benefits. Illegal immigrants are already prohibited by law from receiving any federal benefit, including Social Security.

Any thoughts? Comments? Questions? Let us know what you [think](#).

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